

LOUIS RIGBY  
Mayor  
BRANDON LUNSFORD  
Councilperson At Large A  
STEVE GILLET  
Councilperson At Large B  
DANNY EARP  
Councilperson District 1  
CHUCK ENGELKEN  
Councilperson District 2



BILL BENTLEY  
Councilperson District 3  
Mayor Pro-Tem  
THOMAS GARZA  
Councilperson District 4  
JAY MARTIN  
Councilperson District 5  
NANCY OJEDA  
Councilperson District 6

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE  
AUGUST 12, 2019**

**The City Council of the City of La Porte met in a regular meeting on Monday, August 12, 2019, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 604 West Fairmont Parkway, La Porte, Texas, at 6:00 p.m., with the following in attendance:**

**Councilpersons present:** Louis Rigby, Brandon Lunsford, Steve Gillett, Danny Earp, Chuck Engelken, Bill Bentley, Thomas Garza, Jay Martin, Nancy Ojeda

**Councilpersons absent:** None

**Council-appointed officers present:** Corby Alexander, City Manager; Lee Woodward, City Secretary; Clark Askins, Assistant City Attorney

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Rigby called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **INVOCATION** – The invocation was given by Dr. Dee Spears, Fairmont Park Church.

**PLEDGES** – The pledges of allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags were led by Councilperson Bill Bentley.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** (Limited to five minutes per person.) Justin Suringer expressed his concern that he has been intimidated and assaulted by LPPD. Jeff Martin spoke on behalf of the La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce to thank the Council for City summer camps and City staff. Randy Rowan asked the Council to review Charter 2.02(b) and when and how the Council judges the qualifications of Council candidates. Donna O'Conner spoke in support of all the local first responders and their response to Friday evening's drownings at Sylvan Beach.

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ASSOCIATED ORDINANCES**

(a) **The City Council will hold a public hearing to receive comments regarding proposed City of La Porte Wharton Weems Blvd./S. Broadway St. Sidewalk Improvements – SRTS project, and discuss and possibly adopt Resolution 2019-10 in support of project funding and a commitment to project development, implementation, construction, maintenance, management and financing. [Teresa Evans, Planning and Development Director]**

Mayor Rigby opened the public hearing at 6:17 p.m. Teresa Evans, Planning and Development Director, provided a presentation. Maggie Anderson expressed concerns about the curb placement. Mason Peres said there was already crosswalk access to Bayshore Elementary and suggested the Council wait and revise the project. The Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:28 p.m.

Councilperson Garza moved to authorize the City Manager to apply for a Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant and approve Resolution 2019-10 in support of project funding and a commitment to project development, implementation, construction, maintenance, management and financing; the motion was adopted, 9-0.

5. **STATUTORY AGENDA**

(a) **Approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 22, 2019. [Mayor Louis R. Rigby]**

Councilperson Bentley moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 22, 2019; the motion was adopted, 9-0.

**(b) Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding appointments and re-appointments to various boards, committees, and commissions. [Mayor Louis R. Rigby]**

Councilperson Engelken moved to approve the following, with Betty Moore being appointed for a term of up to six years; the motion was adopted, 9-0. Items 8 and 9 were handled next, in advance of 5c.

**Airport Advisory Board** – three-year terms  
Deborah Rihn-Harvey as Fixed Base Operator Lessee  
Tucker Grant as Licensed Pilot with Aircraft Housed at Airport  
Gideon Jones as Resident Licensed Pilot with Aircraft Housed at Airport

**Building Codes Appeals Board** – three-year terms  
Bryan Moore, Jr.

**Ch. 172 Employee, Retiree Insurance and Benefits Board** – two-year terms  
Donna O'Connor  
Juliane Graham

**Fire Control, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services District Board** – two-year terms  
Patrick McElroy  
Steve Gillett  
Ronald Nowetner  
Dewey Walls, Jr.

**La Porte Area Water Authority (LPAWA)** – two-year terms  
Cambria Beasley  
Stephen Barr  
Doug Martin

**La Porte Development Corporation Board** - two-year terms  
Chuck Engelken  
Nancy Ojeda  
Richard Warren

**La Porte Health Authority** – two-year terms  
Abdul R. Moosa, M.D.  
Robert D. Johnston, M.D.

**La Porte Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number One (TIRZ #1) Board of Directors** – two-year terms  
Peggy Antone  
Alton Porter  
Doug Martin

**La Porte Redevelopment Authority** – two-year terms (This is the same membership as the TIRZ Board, but the Mayor is required to appoint the members to this board, including the LPISD and Harris County appointments to the TIRZ.)  
Peggy Antone  
Alton Porter  
Doug Martin

**Planning and Zoning Commission** – three-year terms  
Councilperson Martin is reappointing Lou Ann Martin as the District 5 member  
Councilperson Lunsford is appointing Donna O'Connor as the At Large A member

**City Representative to the Southeast Texas Housing Finance Corporation Board** – Council may appoint for up to a six-year term  
Betty Moore

**Zoning Board of Adjustment** – two-year terms  
Nettie Warren  
Phillip Hoot  
Pat McCabe

**(c) Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the City of La Porte Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Proposed Budget. [Corby Alexander, City Manager]**

Staff provided an overview of all funds and expected year-end balances and an overview of budget proposals for the coming year. Without objection, the City Council agreed to add a goal for themselves to increase transparency. The Council adjourned for the evening at 8:51 p.m., fixing the time to which to adjourn as 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13.

**(d) Items 5d, 6, and 7 will be handled on August 13, 2019.**

**6. REPORTS**

**(a) Receive a report on the Drainage and Flooding Committee Meeting. [Councilperson Jay Martin]**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, Thursday, August 15, 2019
- Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting, Thursday, August 22, 2019
- Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting, Monday, August 26, 2019
- La Porte Development Corporation Board Meeting, Monday, August 26, 2019

• City Council Meeting, Monday, August 26, 2019

8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – The City Council reserves the right to meet in closed session on any agenda item, should the need arise, and if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:

City Council will meet in closed session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney, Section 551.072 – Deliberation regarding value of real property, to discuss industrial districts and negotiations with industry representatives for terms of new Industrial District Agreements.

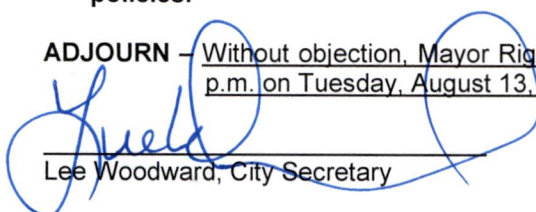
*This item was handled on August 12, between items 5b and 5c. Councilperson Earp has a Conflict of Interest affidavit on file for the item and did not participate in the session or vote. The Council adjourned into executive session at 6:41 p.m.*

9. **RECONVENE** into regular session and consider action, if any, on item(s) discussed in executive session.

The Council reconvened into open session at 6:56 p.m. Councilperson Ojeda moved to approve the new value construction be taxed at a 30% rate for six years; the motion was adopted, 7-0 (Councilperson Garza was out of the room).

10. **COUNCIL COMMENTS** regarding matters appearing on the agenda; recognition of community members, city employees, and upcoming events; inquiry of staff regarding specific factual information or existing policies.

**ADJOURN** – Without objection, Mayor Rigby adjourned the meeting for the evening at 8:51 p.m., to resume at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2019.

  
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Lee Woodward, City Secretary